

22 February 1988

STAT

NOTE FOR:

[REDACTED]

C/OPS/FMD/OL

1. You are right. This issue has come up a number of times before. I believe it is still being carried in Allied's monthly report. Unfortunately, Centex and GSA do not agree with Joe I's interpretation of the specification. Their position is the language of lines 232 and 282 in the specification refers only to domestic water lines. The specification is silent with regard to other piping systems. Therefore, in their opinion, dissimilar metals are allowed on these other systems.

2. I agree with Centex' position regarding the specification; it was poorly written. I also agree that this is not technically a sound thing to do and you may want to schedule installation of special couplings as a PM item over the next few years.

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[REDACTED]

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP

Date

2-5

TO: (Name, office symbol, room number,
building, Agency/Post)

Initials

Date

1. DC/NBPO

2.

3.

4.

5.

Action	File	Note and Return
Approval	For Clearance	Per Conversation
As Requested	For Correction	Prepare Reply
Circulate	For Your Information	See Me
Comment	Investigate	Signature
Coordination	Justify	

REMARKS

Any.

Seems as if this has
come up before - has there
been any resolution?

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DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals,
clearances, and similar actions

FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)

Room No.—Bldg.

Phone No.

5041-102

★ U.S.GPO: 1986-0-491-247/20047

OPTIONAL FORM 41 (Rev. 7-76)
Prescribed by GSA
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.206

2 February 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Operations, FMD/OL
FROM: Deputy Chief Engineer, OPS/FMD/OL
SUBJECT: NHB Piping Problem
Dielectric Couplings for
Dissimilar Metal Pipes

In response to your note of 29 January 1988, with reference to my 25 January memo, same subject as above, the following are verbatim quotes from the Bid Pak 2 Specifications, Volume 3, Section 15100, pages 6 and 7, paragraphs 232 and 282, respectively:

- 232 The inter-membering of copper and brass with ferrous metal is not permitted. The transition between ferrous and nonferrous metal in domestic water systems shall be made at an exposed and readily accessible location. Insulating couplings or unions shall be used at these points.
- 282 Connections between dissimilar piping metals in domestic water systems, copper or brass to iron or steel or aluminum to steel, shall be insulated by providing an insulating coupling or a dielectric flanged union at the connection.

The message of these two paragraphs is: do not connect dissimilar metals, but, in the domestic water system you can with an insulating (dielectric) coupling.

In the NHB, copper tubing has been connected to steel pipe and stainless steel fittings without the use of insulating couplings. "Mac" McDonald, Sr. Electrical Engineer, is in the process of determining the magnitude of this problem.

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cc: C/EB/OPS/FMD/OL
EB/OPS/FMD/OL
FMD Chrono File